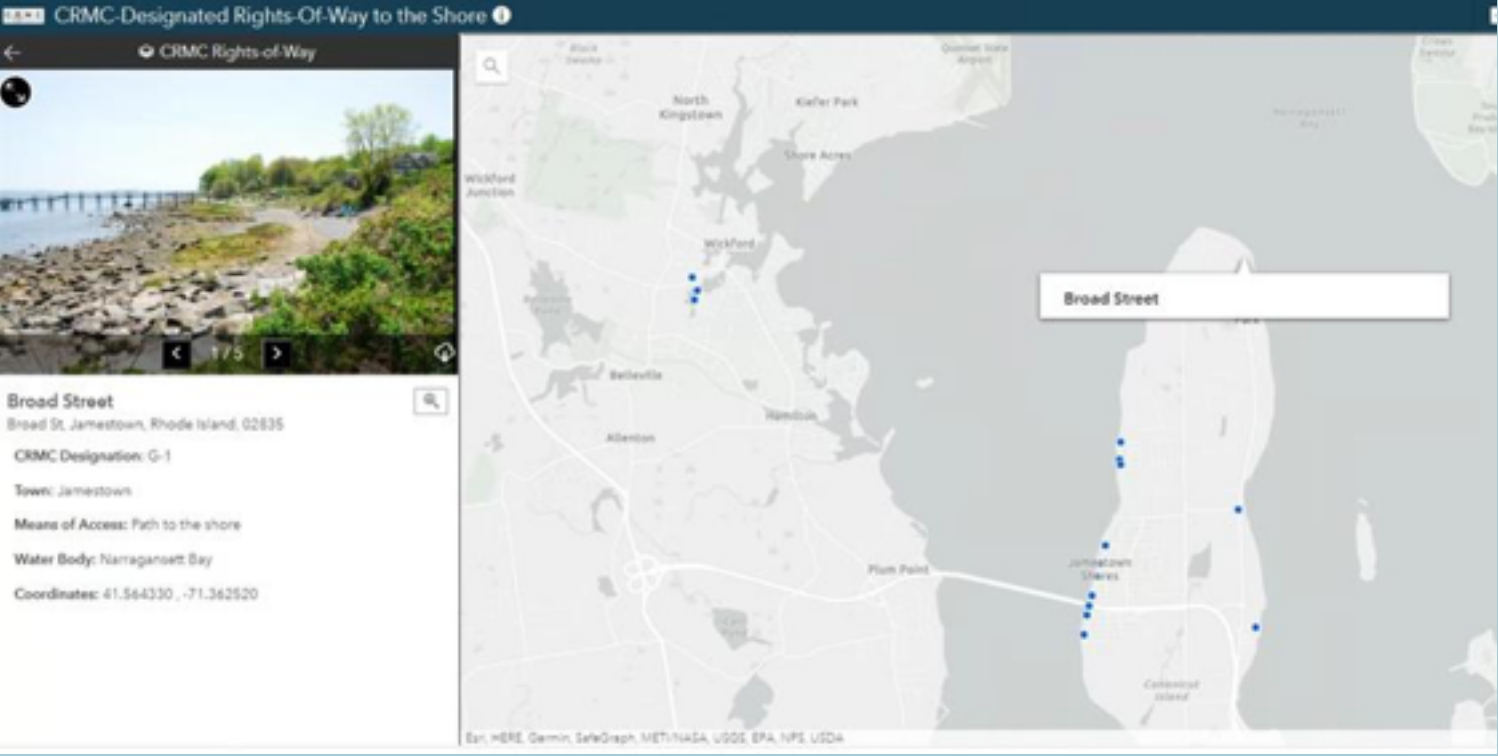




## CRMC updates its Rights-of-Way online viewer



Above is a view of one of the CRMC ROWs - Broad Street in Jamestown - available on the updated Arc GIS ROW mapper on the CRMC website. Each ROW mapped includes its location on the map, its designation, pictures of the ROW, and its designation file. Click above to be directed to the mapper.

The R.I. Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC) with assistance of the URI Coastal Institute has updated its Arc GIS online database containing information on each of the CRMC-designated public rights-of-way (ROW) to the shore.

Initially created in 2014 by then-CRMC intern Emily Robinson, the newly updated version of the GIS (Geographic Information Systems) database includes a map that identifies the location of each ROW with an icon. A click on any of these icons will open a window that includes that particular ROW's name, its designation number, the means of access it provides, the coastal feature present, and other documentation regarding its designation.

According to Nathan Vinhateiro, assistant director of the University of Rhode Island's Coastal Institute, he and Janet Freedman, retired CRMC coastal geologist, wanted to use the data on the mapping tool to conduct a statewide assessment of ROW sites that might be impacted or impinged by climate change. After reviewing the first iteration, they decided that updating the database would be a beneficial step toward that goal.

The mapping tool has been widely used, and during its nearly eight years in existence, the CRMC has designated additional rights-of-way, photographs have been taken of each, and more information and documentation has been collected on many of the sites. This update was to incorporate those additions, fine-tune the location of the designation points, rectify a few broken links, and modernize the map's appearance. URI's Environmental Data Center (EDC) assisted in developing the new platform, and the Coastal Institute volunteered to undertake the effort.

*"It was simply time for an update to the interface and that allowed us to also fix some issues in the database that had been identified over the years and to add new designations. Getting that [original] data into an electronic GIS database, visiting and photographing sites was a huge and meaningful undertaking" done by Robinson, CRMC's Kevin Cute, URI's Dr. Peter August and others. - Nathan Vinhateiro, URI CI*

[Learn more here](#)

## QDC, officials unveil RI Ready program

*Program is modeled on QDC's pre-permitting effort with CRMC*

Governor McKee and Quonset Development Corporation officials in January unveiled a new initiative, Rhode Island Ready, for encouraging development of industrial properties throughout the state. The program was modeled after an effort by the R.I. Coastal Resources Management Council and R.I. Department of Environmental Management, together with QDC, to pre-permit sites in Quonset Business Park in North Kingstown to encourage development and streamline the state permitting process.

The QDC attributes historic growth of the Quonset Business Park to its Site Readiness Program. In 2013, the QDC worked with the CRMC and DEM and other state agencies to create the program, a streamlined and expedited permitting process for the park's 39 undeveloped parcels. The QDC and CRMC also established a public access plan for the entire park, instead of relying on individual companies to incorporate it into their development plans and applications as part of CRMC regulatory requirements, greatly enhancing the ability of QDC to attract tenants.



[Read more here](#)

*"The CRMC is pleased to be a part of Governor McKee's announcement, and the effort going forward to help municipalities all over the state develop their industrial parcels,. As was shown through our collaboration with QDC and DEM 10 years ago, pre-permitting sites allows for a much more streamlined approach for companies and other commerce looking to establish or expand in Rhode Island." - CRMC Executive Director Jeff Willis*

The CRMC, through its formerly named Section 335 of the Rhode Island coastal program, requires public access to the water as part of the application or proposed development, and this program satisfies that condition.

[Click here to go to RI Ready](#)